

MARK

CHAPTER 15:1-20

tape: SMX: 152

TITLE:

“Pilate Before Christ”

THE THEME IS:

Mark 15:2

(“It is as you say - Jesus’ response to the question Are you King of the Jews”)

INTRODUCTION

William booth,

who founded a ministry of evangelism in 1865 in the east end of London, England.

He and His church of 669 were attacked and burned out of their building, his people fell under violent persecution. They were beaten and many died. He continued the ministry. But in light of the war against them. He decided to change the name of the fellowship to:

“The Salvation Army”

Throughout church history

Persecution has always been present to some extent.

In 1993 over 370,000 people were killed for being Christians.

That’s over 1,000 Christians per day

We received a letter from Al & Cecil in China,
They’re the Missionaries you support in Hong Kong..

Persecution has a “cleansing” effect upon the church.

Satan usually avoids Overt Persecution, due to the effect it has upon church growth

“The church persecuted, is the church pure”

We Love Bible Promises;

But are we aware of them all?

John 16:33b

...In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

2 Timothy 3:12 KJV

Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

**That's wonderful news to a persecuted church
Like Mark's Audience, The church at Rome.**

*An authentic, counter-cultural, persecuted church
and it is for that reason Jesus was their touchstone...*

1 Peter 2:21

For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps:

That doesn't seem very positive Jack!

The Truth is...

This is the most Positive thing you can give a Christian who's being a Christian

Positive Confession without Hope from the Bible is dangerous

(If you want just "positive" and no truth my friend, then go lick a battery)

Jesus experienced rejection from our main fronts;

Might I add that we now enter

Into the account of an ACTUAL EVENT. and the things suffered by Jesus are for me & you.

1.) The Sanhedrin;

A religiously motivated rejection

vv. 1

The official religious rejection came a few hours earlier from the counsel of the 71. In the Kangaroo court setting Jesus confessed His crime of being The One & Only true and Living God revealed in human flesh.

Daniel 9:26b

... Messiah shall be (cut off), but not for Himself;

Cut Off

HEB

karath (kaw-rath')

*to destroy by cutting, to pass between
his scourging and his crucifixion*

This word was reserved for those who commit a capital offense

Verse 1

Immediately, in the morning...

I want you to think about this morning...

where you would have been. The very day it was, a day of celebration & worship. -This was going to be a great day!!!

Bound

GRK

deo (deh'-o)

to tie, or to secure, to control (as if they could)

1st.

Jesus was a threat to their power base. Power is addicting, and the addicted will hate and kill to support their habit.

2nd.

Jesus didn't fit their bias regarding the messiah.

They looked for a conquering general, not a redeemer of souls.

3rd.

Jesus exposed their sin personally and publicly;

John 15:22-25

"If I had not come and spoken to them, they would have no sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. ²³ "He who hates Me hates My Father also. ²⁴ "If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would have no sin; but now they have seen and also hated both Me and My Father. ²⁵ "But this happened that the word might be fulfilled which is written in their law,
`They hated Me without a cause.

Jesus has a way of causing us to take a look at ourselves and in ourselves

There is story about a Baptist missionary

who had a mirror hanging outside her hut on a tree... a tribal chieftain passed by that mirror and saw a horribly painted monster and Yelled "there's a monster in that tree, there's a monster in that tree!"... He then took that mirror and dashed it against the ground saying I'll never see that monster again.

That's what the Sanhedrin did to Jesus

2 Corinthians 3:18

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

2.) By Pilate;

A socially motivated rejection

vv. 2-15

Verses 2-4

Are you King of the Jews?

The response of Jesus is;

"Yes, but not as you think"

Verse 4

Pilate discerns the innocence's of Christ in the silence
(He was used to a defense and arguments)

Verse 5

Pilate marveled

John's gospel tells us that Jesus stated at this moment;

John 19:10-11

Then Pilate said to Him, "Are You not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?" ¹¹ Jesus answered, "You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above. Therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin." From then on Pilate sought to release Him,

This is Not Jesus Before Pilate. This is Pilate Before Jesus

Pilate could only stare in wonderment!!!

This man had no nation, no army, no force, no wealth, no friends and He stood owning the universe!

Turn to John 18:33-38a

Verse 6-7

Barabbas was guilty of "trying to establish a Kingdom"

Verse 8-14

Verse 8

Crying aloud GRK *to go up or to begin and increase*

Verse 11-14

Stirred up GRK *to excite, to vibrate, to fan into flames*

See ARCO regarding this

1 Timothy 6:13

I urge you in the sight of God who gives life to all things, and before Christ Jesus who witnessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate,

Verse 15

- Scourging was performed with the Roman *flagellum* whip.

Eusebius, the historian tells of victims being torn open to the point of seeing their kidneys and lungs.

- Josephus, (a non- Christian) the famous eastern historian says that “you could see Jesus’ bones and cartilage through to His vitals”

Isaiah 52:14 NIV

Just as there were many who were appalled at him-- his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any man and his form marred beyond human likeness--

John 19:4

Pilate then went out again, and said to them, "Behold, I am bringing Him out to you, that you may know that I find no fault in Him." :5 Then Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And Pilate said to them, "Behold the Man!"

Man *GRK* *anthropos (anth'-ro-pos)*
a man-faced being (not all human)

Have Pity!!!

And so, Pilate succumbs to the pressure of self.
How many today are succumbing to the pressure of self.
“what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?
the answer is, his face (saving face)

Romans 1:16

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

3.) By the Crowd;

A politically motivated rejection

vv.6-15

The surname "Barabbas" means son of the father. Church history say's that this Barabbas had a first name. In fact, the New English Bible translates his name "Jesus Bar-Abbas" "Jesus, son of the father"

Same Name, That's All

Barabbas was the exact opposite of what Jesus was

- * Political activist
- * Loud and zealous
- * Violent
- * He demanded Israel's deliverance at any cost

That was the messianic view of the nation.

NEWSWEEK

This past week in Israel showed us that the mind set has not changed.
Israel is looking for a political deliverer

John 5:43

"I have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, him you will receive.

Antichrist, as "instead of" Christ;

Daniel 11:37-38a

"He shall regard neither the God of his fathers nor the desire of women, nor regard any god; for he shall exalt himself above them all. ³⁸ "But in their place he shall honor a god of fortresses;

Verse 14

Pilate vacillates between the polls as politicians do

√ Caiaphas, √ The Crowd √ And even his wife...

Matthew 27:19-20

While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent to him, saying, "Have nothing to do with that just Man, for I have suffered many things today in a dream because of Him." ²⁰ But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitudes that they should ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus.

Verse 15

Matthew 27:25 ISV

"let His blood be upon us and our children"

(was a legal affirmation of responsibility we will assume the penalty if there be any)

Matthew 27:24

When Pilate saw that he could not prevail at all, but rather that a tumult was rising, he took water and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, "I am innocent of the blood of this just Person. You see to it."

We leave Pilate knowing that within a few years after this event he was removed from office by Caesar. Alone and powerless he was found in a field by a workmen, having committed suicide.

Poor, Guilty, Powerless, Hopeless man

1 Peter 2:23-24

who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously; ²⁴ who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness-- by whose stripes you were healed.

Circumstantial motivated rejection

vv. 16-20

Verse 16

The soldiers had no interest in Jesus...

Verse 17

Thorns,

In the mind of the Jewish people the thorn was a symbol of the sin of mankind. It was the result of Adam's sin in the garden.

Verse 19

In Mockery

Luke 6:26

**Woe to you when all men speak well of you,
for so did their fathers to the false prophets.**

Resistance

before you take a plane off from the ground you first check to see what direction the wind is coming from *so that you head into the path of greatest resistance...*

Verse 20

The Roman Scourge,

being stripped naked, Jesus was suspended from a post, with his back exposed, His feet about six inches

According to ancient Roman records *most victim died, and the survivors usually went insane from the torture.*

1 Peter 3:18

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God,
being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit,

Christ Before Pilate or Pilate before Christ

You are the Judge

You cannot be neutral. either your verdict of Jesus is

Yes. or it is No

I'll think about, I'll decide later, Maybe tomorrow

Matthew 12:30

He that is not with me is against me;

This Morning, You're the Judge,
yet your decision will not alter who He is, but it will determine where you spend
eternity

INVITATION;

I am asking you this morning to choose between Jesus or Barabbas
No, between Jesus or yourself...

Matthew 16:25

"For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.

I'm asking you this morning, "Immediately in the morning"

2 Corinthians 6:2

Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

I'm asking you this morning
To make a radical decision for Jesus Christ.

I **Marvel** *over what things people choose to worship and serve after rejecting Jesus Christ.*

Crystals

{The Lady at Zion National Park, who told us to put rocks in our bathtub}

The Cults

who refuse to come to Christ by His free gift of salvation and are unwilling give Him
and Him alone all the glory.

The Moralist

Who understands that "some people" need that Jesus stuff as a crutch
Jesus is my crutch
Jesus is my strength
Jesus is my Life

Every man has a crutch upon which he leans - what's yours?